safeguards and also would not like tolet the education sector be used as a bargaining chip in obtaining any gains in other sectors.

The role of the education sector in developing human resources to promote and sustain rapid economic and social growth cannot be over emphasized. It has been the considered view of the Government that India should retain all the options in the education sector to be exercised at a time most suitable in national interest.

Autonomy to Institutes in OBC reservation

2431. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that the Central educational institutions, like I.I.Ts and I.I.Ms, should be allowed autonomy in implementing their time--table for roll-out OBC quota and a matching 54 per cent increase in general category seats; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and a resume of the views received from these Central Government educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Double shift Colleges affiliated to D.U.

2432. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University proposes to start double shifts in colleges to meet with the additional seats in the colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to ensure that the quality of education is not affected as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University of Delhi, the University proposes for a multipronged approach to meet with additional seats in colleges as well as to maintain the quality of higher education. This, *inter-alia*, includes opening of new colleges and construction of new building for colleges housed in school buildings, creation of more seats in colleges by creating additional facilities and improving the reach of higher education by strengthening the campus of open learning.

Promotion of Urdu language

†2433. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any plan for giving promotion and recognition to Urdu language under article 345 and 347 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this plan is likely to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of teachers in NVs and KVs

2434. SHRI O. T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge shortage of trained teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, school-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.